

## REMARKS

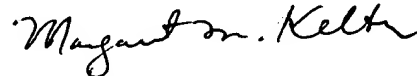
The above-identified application is United States application serial number 09/940,025 filed on August 27, 2001. This paper is a preliminary amendment to remove unnecessary language from the specification, i.e., in the Brief Description of the Drawings. No amendments to the figures are necessary because the Brief Description of the Drawings erroneously references figures 21A and 21B. The Specification has been amended to delete the references and refer only to Fig. 21 as filed and referred to the Detailed Description. No new matter has been added thereby and no items were omitted in the nonprovisional application as filed. Fig. 21 was filed with the nonprovisional application.

Please contact the undersigned at (512) 794-3600 if you have any questions.

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Respectfully submitted,



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**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

The paragraph starting on page 9, line 1 is amended as follows.

Fig. 21[A] illustrates a Read Secure Metadata protocol according to an embodiment of the present invention.

Please delete the paragraph starting on page 9, lines 3 and 4.

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